

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00928 051458Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 /032 W

-----021628 060122Z /64

R 051420Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5624

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TRIPOLI 0928

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, LY

SUBJECT: LYKES BROS. CLAIM AGAINST GENERAL NATIONAL MARITIME
TRANSPORT COMPANY (GNMTC)

REF: STATE 167059

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT AS YET CONTACTED GNMTC A SECOND TIME ON
DEBT PROBLEM. TIMING DOES NOT SEEM RIGHT SINCE LYKES RENEWED
ITS COMPLAINT TO DEPARTMENT ONLY THREE WEEKS AFTER OUR INITIAL
APPROACH TO GNMTC, AN INADEQUATE PERIOD IN THIS ENVIRONMENT
WITH ITS GENERALLY GLACIAL PACE OF EVENTS TO DETERMINE IF
APPROACH HAD ANY EFFECT. MOREOVER, MANSOURI INFORMED US
ALREADY JUNE 7 THAT GNMTC HAD DISPENSED WITH SERVICES OF
TEXAS STAR (WE FEEL CERTAIN M/V ESSIDORA IS SAME AS M/V
ESSIDRA).

2. ALTHOUGH LYKES ASSERTED THAT IT WAS TURNING TO DEPARTMENT
"AS LAST RESORT," RECORD AVAILABLE TO US DOES NOT ESTABLISH
THAT LYKES HAS DONE ANYTHING WITH GNMTC ON ITS OWN BEHALF
SINCE IT FORWARDED PRO FORMA LETTER OF APRIL 5, 1978. WE
HOPE IT HAS BEEN MORE ACTIVE, AND THAT IT WILL HAVE
BEEN SENDING WEEKLY TELEXES (TELEX NO. 20208) OR
TELEGRAMS TO GNMTC, INCLUDING AN OCCASIONAL ONE TO
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMPANY, FARIZ SULTAN, DEMANDING PAYMENT.
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3. WE JUDGE A RENEWED EMBASSY APPROACH TO GNMTC WOULD
BE TIMELY ABOUT 15 JULY AND, IF DEPARTMENT AGREES,
WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING UPDATED STATEMENT FROM LYKES
THAT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN PAID PLUS SUMMARY OF WHAT
EFFORTS THEY HAVE EMPLOYED IN PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS
TO COLLECT. IN ADDITION, MAY WE, IF IT APPEARS DESIRABLE,

TELL GNMTC A) THAT IF LYKES IS NOT SOON PAID, GNMTC
RUNS RISK THAT COMPANY WILL SEEK A JUDGMENT IN U.S.
COURT ALLOWING ATTACHMENT OF A GNMTC VESSEL ON SOME
FUTURE CALL AT U.S. PORT, AND/OR B) THAT IF USG MUST
CONCLUDE THAT GNMTC IS FINANCIALLY IRRESPONSIBLE,
IT MAY BE NECESSARY FOR U.S. AUTHORITIES TO UNDERTAKE
INVESTIGATIONS DURING FUTURE U.S. PORT CALLS OF GNMTC
VESSELS AS TO WHETHER COMPANY IS RESPONSIBLE IN MATTERS
OF LIABILITY INSURANCE, SAFETY, OIL SPILL PRECAUTIONS,
ETC. WHICH COULD RESULT IN DELAYS?
CARLE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Concepts: CLAIMS, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, MARINE TRANSPORTATION, NEGOTIATIONS, DEBT REPAYMENTS
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Draft Date: 05 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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